

Center for Excellence in Education

Goal Area: Supporting High Quality Research

Summary: During a six-week long summer program, approximately 70 high school students (50 from the U.S. and 20 from abroad) gather at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Nationally recognized high school teachers and doctoral level alumni of the RSI conduct classes designed to sharpen research skills. In addition, the students complete hands-on research guided by selected mentors at corporations, universities and research organizations.

Purpose: This annual program aims to provide high-achieving students with exposure to advanced theory and research in mathematics, the sciences and engineering.

Accomplishments/Results: Students who graduate from RSI go on to some of America's top mathematics and engineering schools. They routinely win prestigious awards (such as the Intel Science Competition) utilizing research begun while at RSI. Alumni keep in touch with each other, forging valuable bonds and networking throughout their scientific careers.

Plans for the next 12 months: The program is expected to continue in Summer 2004.